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United States Patent [19]

Bashour

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[54] **INTUBATION SYSTEM**

[76] Inventor: **Charles Allen Bashour**, 2224 Fenwick Rd., University Heights, Ohio 44118-3118

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **600/120**; 600/184; 600/143; 600/146

[58] **Field of Search** 600/114, 184, 600/120, 143, 139, 146, 162, 182

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Primary Examiner—Jeffrey A. Smith
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—David G. Henry

[57] **ABSTRACT**

The invention is of an intubation system which is based on a specially designed fiberscopic instrument of a new design to address the unique requirements for intubation. The fiberscope (referred to as an "endoscopic stylet" by the inventor) has a largely semi-rigid insertion cord which permits a user to pre-form the endoscopic stylet to follow the anticipated contours of the airway leading to the trachea and to insure that it reliably shepherds the associated endotracheal tube to the intended tracheal position. By visually tracking the progress of the endoscopic stylet through the airway, specifically through the vocal cords and into the trachea, placed at the proper distance above the carina, as permitted by the fiberoptic portions of the endoscopic stylet, proper positioning of the endotracheal tube is virtually assured, and post-intubation verification would be unnecessary in most instances since intubation is itself verification of proper endotracheal tube placement.

2 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets